



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

DEC 24 1996

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: R-19J

Patrick R. Ralston, Director
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street, Room 256
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Subject: Approval of a Minor Modification of the Indiana
Underground Injection Control Program to Exempt a
Portion of the Trenton Aquifer

Dear Mr. Ralston:

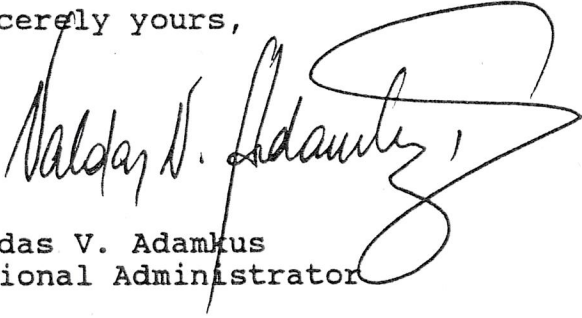
Primacy for implementation of the underground injection control program in Indiana was delegated to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) in 1991, while aquifer exemptions to allow injection of oil-field brine into aquifers with less than 10,000 mg/l total dissolved solids remain the responsibility of USEPA, Region 5.

The purpose of this letter is to approve an aquifer exemption in Indiana, and to incorporate the aquifer exemption as a minor change to the IDNR's Class II primacy program.

The IDNR has requested that an exemption of the Trenton aquifer be granted to allow injection of brine brought to the surface in conjunction with gas storage operations by Indiana Gas Company, Inc. at the Brookston Field in White County, Indiana. The aquifer exemption is limited to the area in a circle one-quarter mile radius centered on the Indiana Gas Well No. 5(B-37), IDNR Permit Number 43983 in the Brookston Storage Field. This aquifer is not expected to serve as a source of drinking water because abundant high quality drinking water is available in the Silurian-Devonian aquifer within 200 feet of the surface while water in the Trenton aquifer at a depth of 1,000 feet contains total dissolved solids in excess of 3,000 mg/l, and is, therefore, unsuitable for human consumption without treatment. Further details are included in the enclosed aquifer exemption summary sheet.

This letter also serves to approve the incorporation of this aquifer exemption into the IDNR's approved primacy program. If you have any questions on this minor amendment to the approved primacy program, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valdas V. Adamkus", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Valdas V. Adamkus
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

AQUIFER EXEMPTION
SUMMARY SHEET

APPLICANT: Indiana Gas Company, c/o Keith Koppel, 1630 N. Meridian Street,
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

I.D. NUMBER: IDNR # 43983

EXEMPTION DESCRIPTION (Township, Range, Section, Quarter section, and affected area):

The area within a circle of one-quarter mile radius centered on the proposed injection well located 8 feet from the south line and 38 feet from the west line of the NW SW NW of Section 25, T26N, R4W, White County, Indiana

FIELD: N/A

AQUIFER TO BE EXEMPTED: Trenton Limestone

JUSTIFICATION FOR EXEMPTION:

- (x) Aquifer is not a source for drinking water and will not serve as a source of drinking water in the future because it:
- () Is producing or capable to produce hydrocarbons
 - () Is producing or capable to produce minerals
 - () Is too deep or too remote
 - () Is above Class III area subject to subsidence
 - () Is too contaminated (name contaminants): _____; or
- (x) Has a total dissolved solids content (TDS) level above 3,000 and not reasonably expected to serve as a source of drinking water

PURPOSE OF INJECTION: Disposal of formation brine associated with withdrawal of gas from a gas storage reservoir.

APPLICANT: Indiana Gas Company, c/o Keith Koppel, 1630 N. Meridian Street,
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202
I.D. NUMBER: IDNR # 43983

INJECTED FLUID QUALITY: -- 4,400 mg/l TDS

INJECTED FLUID SOURCE: -- Trenton Limestone (same formation)

FORMATION WATER QUALITY: -- 4,400 mg/l TDS

OIL OR MINERAL PRODUCTION HISTORY: None.

ACTIVE INJECTION WELL INJECTING INTO SAME FORMATION:

<u>FIELD</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>INJECTION INTERVAL</u>	<u>INJECTION SOURCE</u>	<u>TOTAL DEPTH</u>
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There are no active injection wells within the area proposed for exemption

WATER USE IN AREA:

Ground water coming from glacial drift and the Hunton Group of Limestones of Silurian and Devonian age, less than 200 feet deep

REMARKS: None